

DISH Food Pantry 2021 Yearly Report

bhcc.edu/dishfoodpantry



40,079

TOTAL POUNDS DONATED







26,613 Greater Boston Food Bank

3,109 Stop & Shop

2,900 Food for Free Produce

2,530 Food Link

2,228 Community Donations

(mail-in donations from Amazon)

1,867 Hope and Comfort

311 Pet Food Task Force

265 I Support the Girls

160 Seven Hills Pasta

96 Wegmans



39,330

TOTAL POUNDS DISTRIBUTED

26,657 Non-Perishable Food

6,451 Fresh/Frozen Food

3,305 Hygiene and Household

Cleaning Products

2,447 Baby Food/Products

470 Pet Food/Products

434

INTAKE FORMS COMPLETED



428 STUDENTS



6 STAFF

1,699

TOTAL ORDERS

FILLED

409

TOTAL USERS

1,391

TOTAL DELIVERIES

274

TOTAL NUMBER OF ON-CAMPUS PICK-UPS





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"Using the DISH Food Pantry is incredibly helpful and easy, and it doesn't make me self-conscious about needing this service."

"If you need the service, use it. It is very helpful, especially if you are struggling. It helped take a weight off my shoulders knowing that the DISH pantry was there to help."

DISH Milestones/Exciting Moments

WINTER 2021

- Themed DISH Food Pantry Soup Kits distributed (Mexican-inspired, Asian-inspired, and Italian-inspired). Kits include broth, spices, grains, and protein.
- Distributed Oatmeal Kits (quick oats, honey, spices, and nuts/berries).

SPRING 2021

- Distributed Birthday Kits (cake mix, candles, frosting), Passover items (matzo ball soup mix and matzo crackers), Spring Cleaning Kits (antibacterial spray/wipes, paper towels, and sponges), and Graduation Kits (treats, sparkling water, and a handwritten note).
- Distributed cat/dog food, pet treats, and cat litter donated by the Pet Food Task Force.
- Celebrated one year of DISH Food Pantry Deliveries with Snapchef.
- DISH Coordinator Molly Hansen and Dean of Students Julie Elkins presented "Let's DISH: Revolutionizing the Community College Food Pantry Experience" at the National Association of School Personnel Administrators virtual conference.
- American College Personnel Association (ACPA) awarded Outstanding New Professional Award to DISH Coordinator Molly Hansen, and recognized Hansen at ACPA virtual convention.

 Secretary of State Anthony Blinken delivered Keynote Address recognizing DISH Food Pantry at BHCC Commencement.

SUMMER 2021

- Distributed S'Mores Kits (marshmallows, graham crackers, chocolate bars), Popsicle Kits (popsicle molds and juice bottles), Red Sox Kits (popcorn, coke, information on reduced price Red Sox tickets), and Trail Mix Kits (nuts, dried fruit, chocolate).
- Return of "Molly's DISHes," a virtual cooking show that includes ingredients that can be found in the food pantry.
- Launched Cookbook Donation Drive to collect new or gently used cookbooks for students.
 Over 50 books were donated and distributed.
- Featured in Hope and Comfort's CNN Heroes
 Award segment as one of their partner agencies.

 Hope and Comfort provides the majority of the
 DISH Food Pantry's hygiene products.

FALL 2021

Distributed Back-to-School Kits (notebooks, index cards, pencils), Butternut Squash Chili Kits (broth, canned beans, butternut squash, spices, recipe card), Thanksgiving meal essentials (stuffing mix, gravy, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes mix, pie crusts), and Holiday Dinner



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Continued, DISH Milestones/Exciting Moments

items (bread/cookie mix, stuffing mix, mashed potatoes mix, cooking oil). Each user also received a \$40 Stop & Shop gift card (donated from Greater Boston Food Bank) with Thanksgiving and Holiday Dinner orders.

 Celebrated the DISH Food Pantry 2-Year Anniversary on September 3, 2021, with a virtual program the highlighting past, present, and future of the DISH Food Pantry. Speakers included BHCC President Pam Eddinger, Dean of Students Julie Elkins, Assistant Dean of Students Will Cribby, Student Ana Lindo, and Molly Hansen.

- President Eddinger and Molly Hansen featured on WCVB-TV segment on "More College Students Struggling with Food Insecurity".
- DISH Food Pantry and Molly Hansen featured on Boston 25 News segment "Arlington Nonprofit Honored with Environmental Merit Award" on community partner Food Link.
- Launched DISH & Dash Station with products specifically selected for students facing housing insecurity. Products included microwavable meals, travel hygiene supplies, snacks, breakfast bars/cereal, and drinks.

Educate. Serve. Advocate.

The DISH Food Pantry launched the Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Semester Series in Fall 2021 in partnership with BHCC's Single Stop office and Veterans Center.

SEPTEMBER

Stand Up & Speak Out: Advocating for Legislative Change

 September 28: Helping Students Succeed and Graduate: the MA Hunger-Free College Act

OCTOBER

Healthy & Hygienic: Reducing Hygiene Insecurity & Period Poverty

 October 13: Providing Dignified and Reliable Access to Hygiene Supplies—A Guest Panel with Jeff Feingold (Hope and Comfort), Mickey Cockrell (Catie's Closet), and Maureen Winkler Belger (Dignity Matters)

NOVEMBER

Honoring & Supporting Our Veterans

 November 3: "DISH Food Pantry – A Day in the Life" – Coordinator Molly Hansen gave a virtual

- tour of the DISH Food Pantry and discussed operations/inventory sourcing.
- November 4: "I Grew Up With the Shame of Food Insecurity. Decade Later, I Still Obsess Over What I Eat." – Guest speaker Kimi Ceridon spoke about her experience with food insecurity in childhood and how it has impacted her as an adult.
- November 8: A Conversation about Struggles, Strength, and Success – Guest speaker Brian Jewers spoke about mental wellness and the importance of community health.
- November 9: Veterans in Community
 Strengthening and Sharing Practical Leadership
 Guest speaker Dr. Mark E. Brouker, Pharm.D.
 spoke about leadership skills and building
 effective teams.

DECEMBER

Housing First: Solving Homelessness in Boston

- December 2: Empowerment, Justice, and Resources: The Homeless Youth Handbook
- Launched donation drive for Friends of Boston's Homeless.



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DISH Fall 2021 Survey Results

Information about survey

- Distributed to Fall 2021 Users (243 users)
- Response rate: 48% (117 responses)

Demographic of Student Response:

- Full-time students: 70
- Part-time students: 37
- Other: 3 (workforce development, certificate program, etc.)
- Staff/Faculty: 7

99% of DISH Food Pantry users found the sign-up process easy:

- "Very easy to navigate. Love the fact that they deliver!"
- "Convenient, simple, and so user-friendly!"
- "Never had an problems ordering food/hygiene products."

99% of DISH Food Pantry users are extremely likely or very likely to recommend the DISH to another student or faculty/staff member.

Based upon experiences with the DISH Food Pantry Staff and Delivery Driver, DISH Food Pantry users rated the following:

 100% rated communication of DISH Food Pantry Sign-Up Process and Delivery "Excellent" or "Good."

- 100% rated courtesy and friendliness of the DISH Food Pantry Staff and Delivery Driver as "Excellent" or "Good."
- 100% rated the helpfulness of the DISH Food Pantry Staff and Delivery Driver as "Excellent" or "Good."
- "Super friendly and nice. Not a shameful experience at all."
- "The DISH orders often come with little surprises in addition to the food I ordered like snack bars and chocolate. Thank you!"
- "It literally could not be better— I've never had a single issue!"

While utilizing the DISH Food Pantry semester:

- 98% of users strongly agreed or agreed that they were treated with dignity and respect by DISH Food Pantry staff.
- 97% of users strongly agreed or agreed that they felt supported by DISH Food Pantry staff.
- 92% of users strongly agreed or agreed that any concerns about their order were addressed in a timely manner.

By receiving food/hygiene items at the DISH Food Pantry:

 77% of students strongly agreed or agreed that they were provided with food/

- hygiene items that they would otherwise not have access to.
- 82% of students strongly agreed or agreed that they were able to focus better on class and class-related activities.
- 94% of students strongly agreed or agreed that their ability to attend virtual courses was improved.
- 78% of students strongly agreed or agreed that they were able to stay enrolled.

When asked if they planned to continue their enrollment at BHCC:

- 104 said yes
- 3 said no
- 5 were unsure

DISH Users were also asked which of the following features of the DISH Food Pantry made them feel respected and comfortable while using the service:

- Using an online platform to select food and hygiene items:
 102 respondents
- Communicating via text instead of phone or email: 65 respondents
- Receiving holidays snack bags with positive messaging: 74 respondents
- Seeing needs represented in the inventory: 37 respondents
- Availability of specialty meal kits: 44 respondents